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REMARKS

Claims 1-9 are pending, claims 3, 5, 7 and 8 having been amended to delete multiple dependencies. No new matter has been added.

Please apply any other charges or credits to Deposit Account No. 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

Date:

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Version with markings to show changes made

In the claims:

Claims 3, 5, 7 and 8 have been amended as follows:

- 3. A transformant carrying the DNA according to claim 1 [or the vector according to claim 2].
- 5. A method for producing [the] <u>a</u> protein [according to claim 4], said method comprising the steps of culturing the transformant according to claim 3 and recovering the expressed protein from said transformant or the culture supernatant thereof.
- 7. A method of screening for a compound which binds to [the] a protein [according to claim 4], said method comprising the steps of:
- (a) bringing the protein according to claim 4 into contact with a sample to be tested, and
- (b) selecting a compound having the activity to bind to the protein [according to claim 4].
- 8. A method for detecting or measuring [the] <u>a</u> protein [according to claim 4], said method comprising bringing the antibody according to claim 6 into contact with a test sample [that apparently contains the protein according to claim 4], and detecting or measuring the formation of an immune complex of said antibody and [said] <u>a</u> protein <u>that specifically binds said antibody</u>.